THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

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MUSEUM RECEIVES
NAPOLEONIC WEAPON

One of the finest surviving shoulder weapons produced during the Napoleonic era recently entered the arms collection of The Cleveland Museum of Art through a gift of David S. Ingalls Sr. It will go on display Tuesday, May 29 in the Recent Accession Gallery (Gallery B).

The weapon is a double-barreled, flint-lock fowling piece, nearly four feet long. It was executed for Napoleon about 1809 by La Page, France's outstanding, early 19th century gunsmith. Le Page, under appointment to Napoleon, was especially known for his shoulder weapons and specialized in Presentation and ceremonial pieces. It is conjectured that the Museum's example may have been presented by the Emperor to a prominent foreigner or an officer in his army.

The barrels of the Cleveland fowling piece are of partially gilded steel; the silver mounts, also partially gilded, are elaborately decorated with reliefs; the stock is of walnut, part of which is skillfully carved in the shape of a ram's head.